



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Marine Resources Commission

*380 Fenwick Road
Building 96*

Matthew J. Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources

Steven G. Bowman
Commissioner

April 15, 2021

TO: ATLANTIC CROAKER AND SPOT HARVESTERS AND BUYERS
FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION
RE: COMMERCIAL SEASONS FOR ATLANTIC CROAKER AND SPOT

Effective 12:01 A.M., Thursday, April 15, 2021, two new regulations for Atlantic croaker and spot are established for the Commonwealth. These regulations include the implementation of commercial seasons. The new commercial seasons for these two species are as follows:

Atlantic croaker: January 15 - December 31 of any calendar year

Spot: April 15 - December 8 of any calendar year

We recognize that the restrictions on the start of the seasons have passed for the current calendar year. The commercial spot season will close December 8, 2021, while opening dates for both species will go into effect in 2022.

Chapter 4 VAC 20-1370-10 et seq., "Pertaining to Atlantic Croaker", states the following:
4 VAC 20-1370-50. COMMERCIAL FISHERY.

It shall be unlawful for any person fishing commercially with any gear type to harvest or land any Atlantic croaker before January 15 of the current calendar year.

Chapter 4 VAC 20-1380-10 et seq., "Pertaining to Spot", states the following:
4 VAC 20-1380-50. COMMERCIAL FISHERY.

It shall be unlawful for any person fishing commercially with any gear type to harvest or land any spot before April 15 or after December 8 of the current calendar year.

For the full regulations, please visit <https://www.mrc.virginia.gov/regulations/regindex.shtm>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Somers Smott at 757-247-2004 or somers.smott@mrc.virginia.gov.

An Agency of the Natural Resources Secretariat

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